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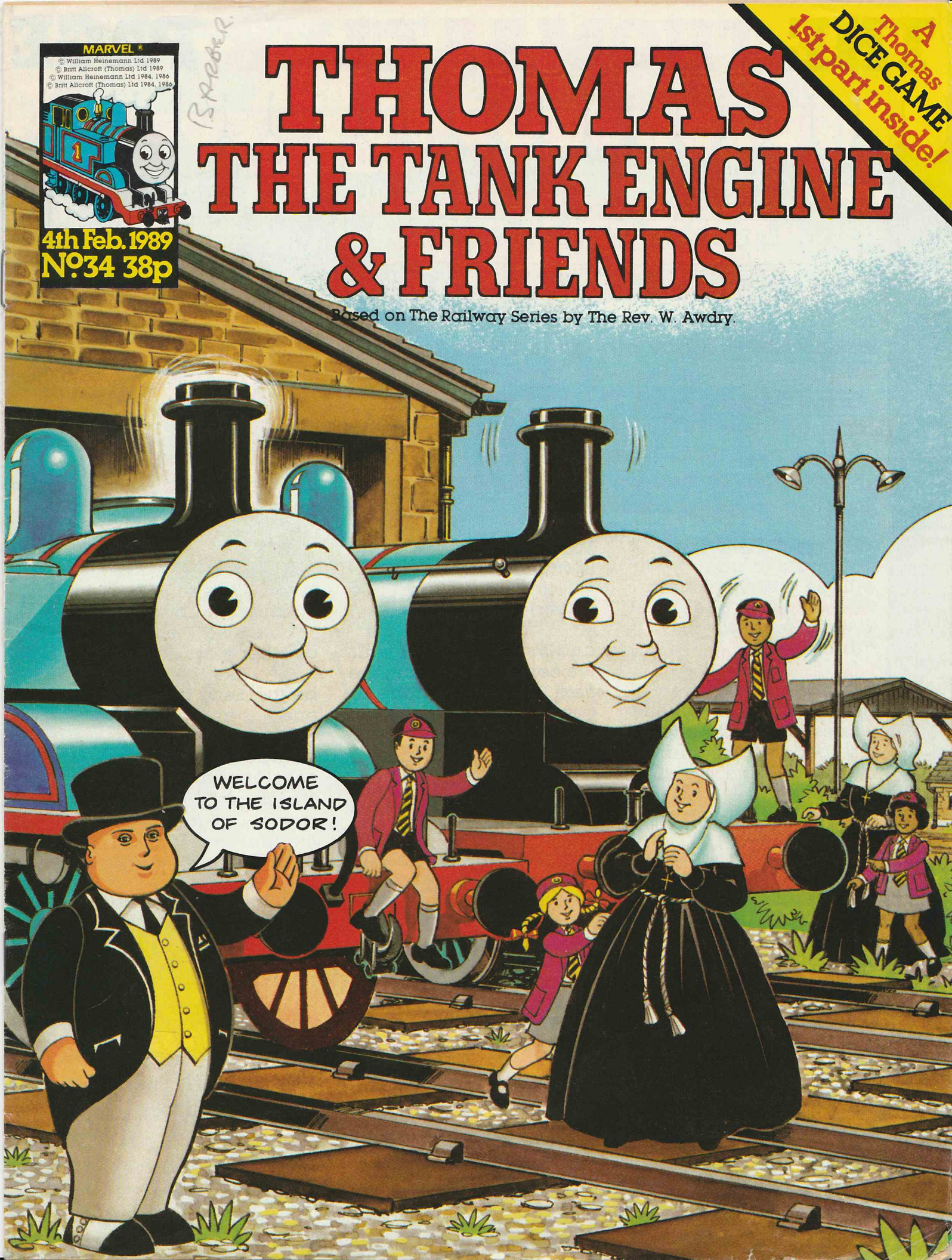
MARVEL ®
4th Feb. 1989
No.34 38p

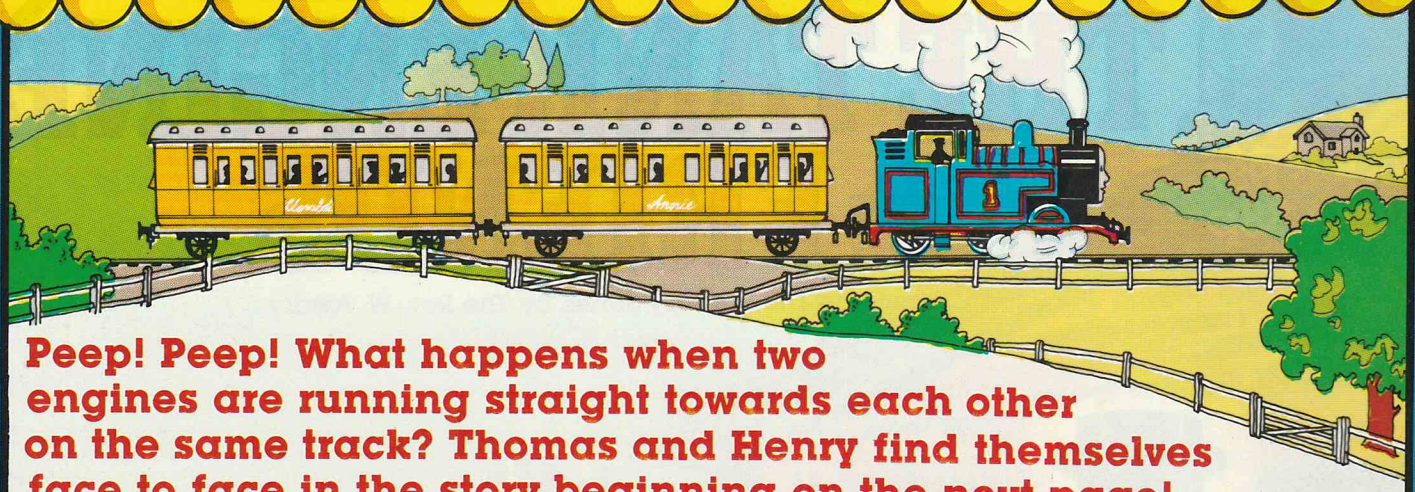
A Thomas DICE GAME 1st part inside!

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.



THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE



Peep! Peep! What happens when two engines are running straight towards each other on the same track? Thomas and Henry find themselves face to face in the story beginning on the next page!

Can you guess from the cover who Thomas meets in our second story? Yes! It's the nuns! They think Thomas is a Really Helpful Engine – we're sure you will agree! Peep! Peep!

THOMAS PACK!

If you turn to page 7 you will see a very splendid **Thomas Pack** – one is sent to every reader who subscribes to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends!** Subscribers have every issue sent straight to their homes for a year, and also become automatic members of the **Thomas Club!**

STEAM DAYS!

If you ever find yourself in Poole, Dorset, why not pay a visit to **Great Poole Scenic Model Railway?** There are over 2,500 feet of track in constant use with up to 25 engines running – including Hornby Hobbies models of Thomas and his friends. There are lots of other exciting surprises too, as well as a toy and model shop. You can find the Great Poole Scenic Model Railway at **Henning's Wharf, The Quay, Poole, Dorset** (Tel: 0202 687240) Entry for under 4's is free.

THOMAS'S GAME!

In our centre pages you will find the first part of a splendid **Thomas dice game** for you to cut out and make, together with the centre pages from the next 3 issues. We hope you will enjoy it – the mural returns in **issue 38!**

Percy learns about Morse Code on page 14!

TOKEN MEMBERSHIP!

If you'd like to join Thomas's Club without subscribing, here is another way: Collect **3 tokens** like the one below. Send one **yellow**, one **red** and one **green** one, together with a stamped, addressed envelope to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.* You will be sent your very own membership card and number.

Please allow 28 days for delivery.

THOMAS & TOKEN

In our next issue: The trucks are all in a muddle! And it's Bill and Ben's fault!

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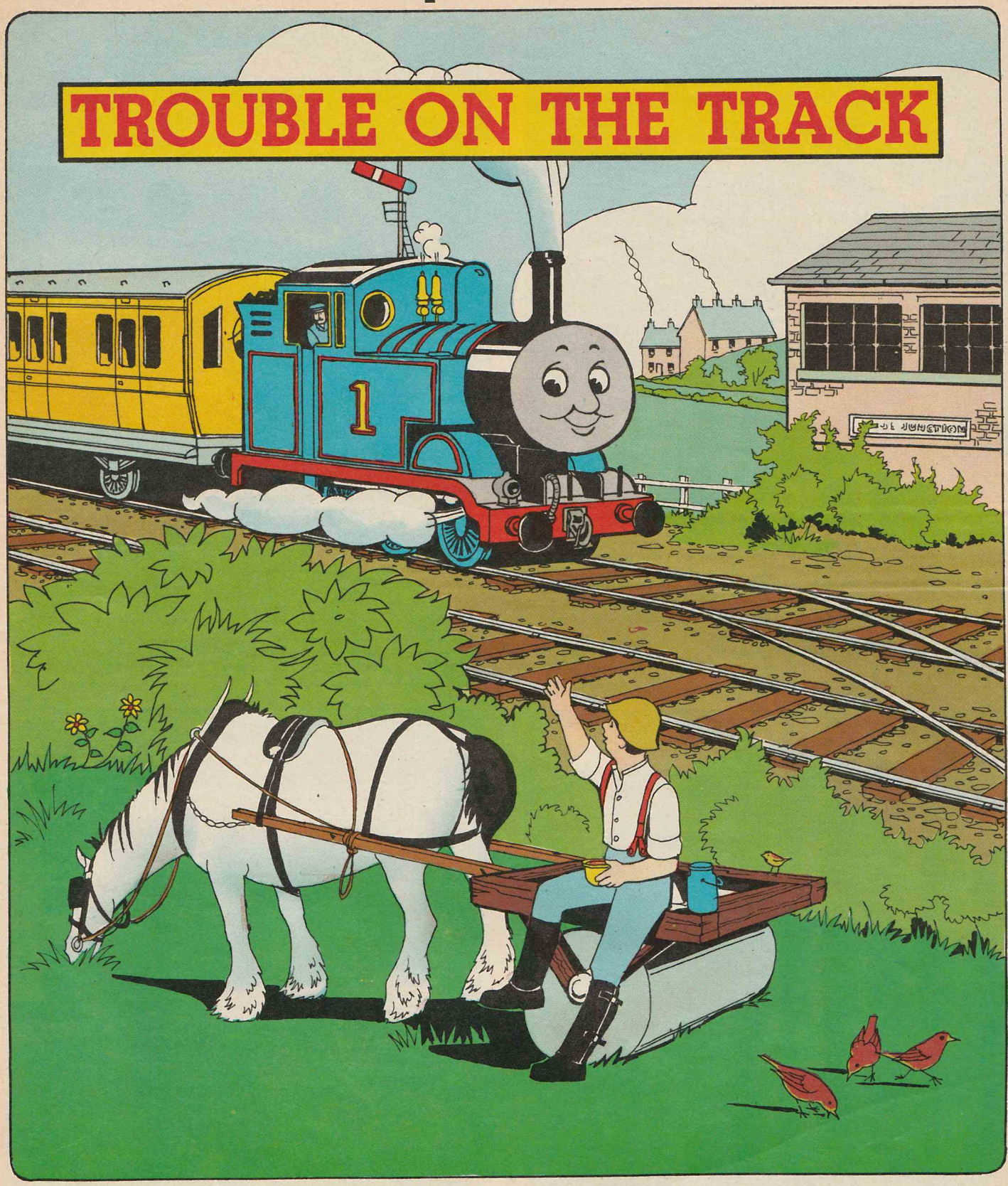
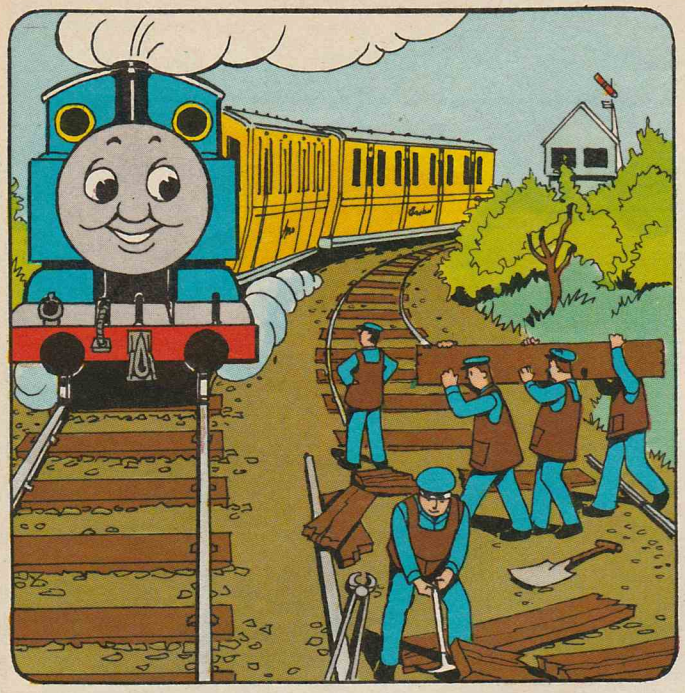
A listen and look story!

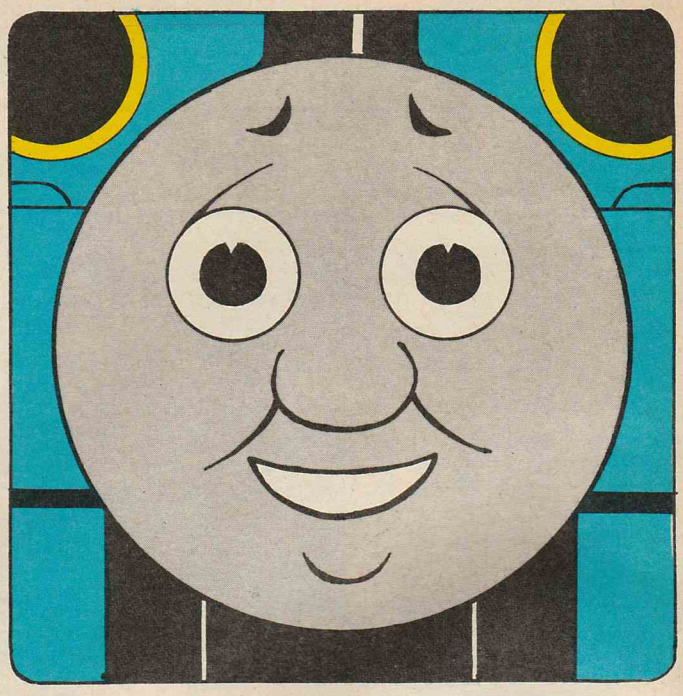


1. "Peep!" whistled Thomas as he saw the points ahead were set and the signal set for **go.** "I usually have to stop here for bigger engines – but not today!"

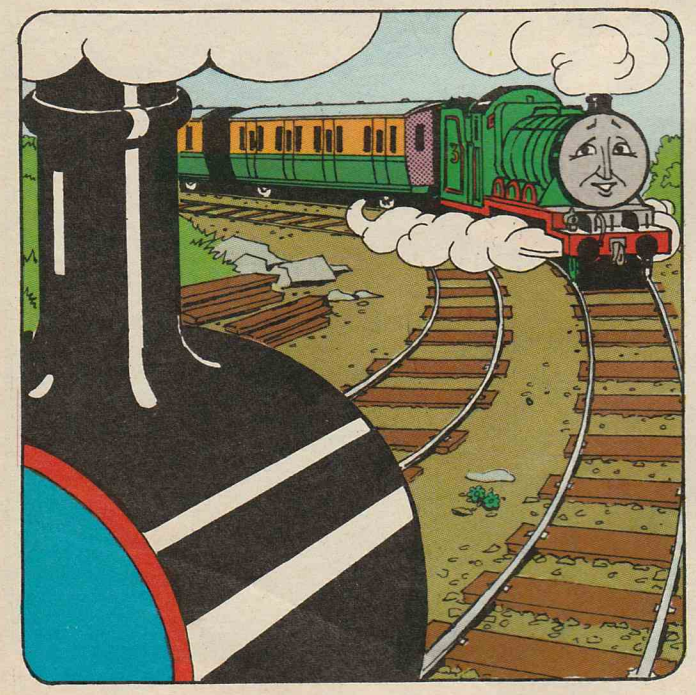
2. "Steady, Thomas," said his driver. "We still must be careful. We can only use the 'up train' track here, while the 'down train' line is being repaired."



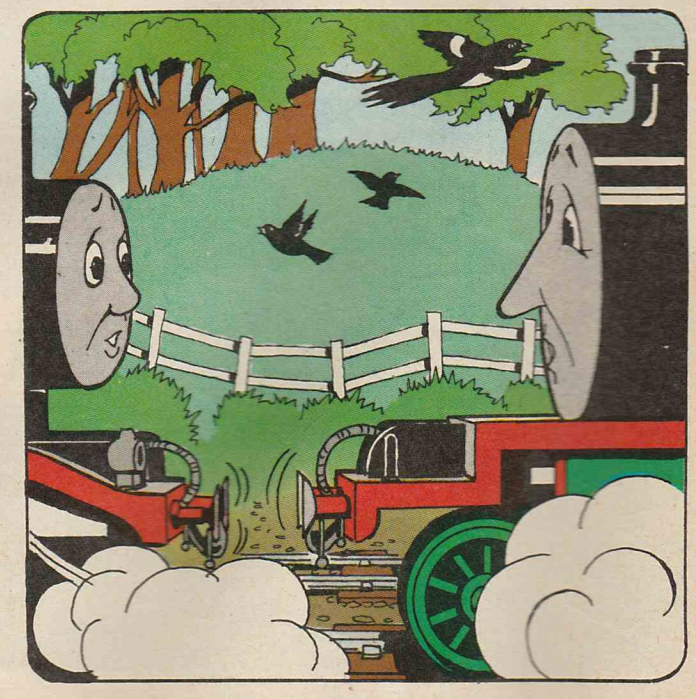
3. Ahead, Thomas could see the men hard at work trying to repair the down track. "They'll be surprised to see me coming along so early today," he thought.



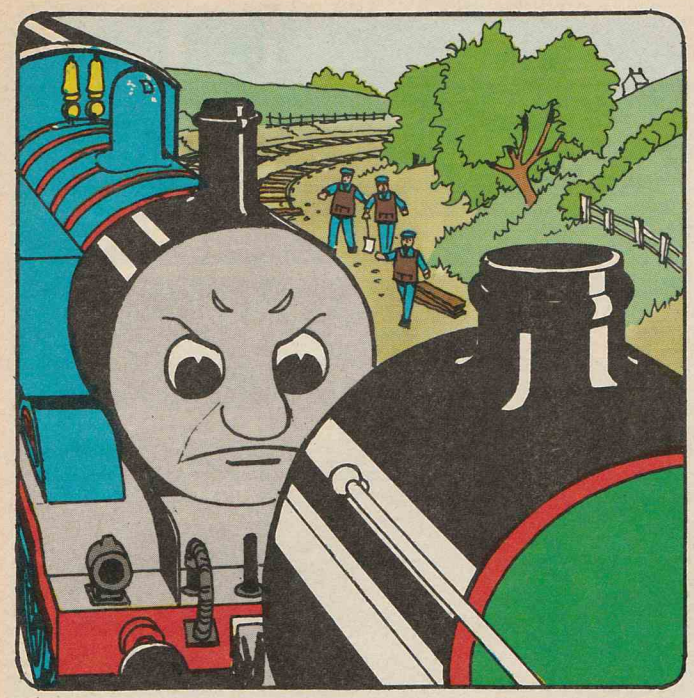
4. Thomas was ready to give a friendly whistle to the busy workmen. But before he could, Thomas saw something hurrying towards him – on his track!



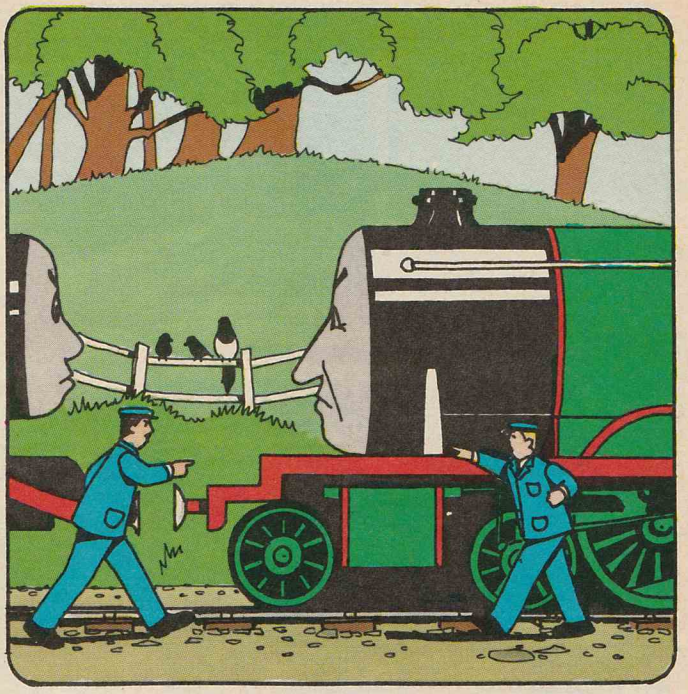
5. It was Henry! The two engines were pulling their coaches towards each other on the same track! "Look out!" hissed Thomas. "Look out!" whistled Henry.



6. Thomas's driver shut off steam at once, and braked. Henry's driver did the same. Thomas's wheels locked tight, but thankfully he stopped a foot away from Henry.



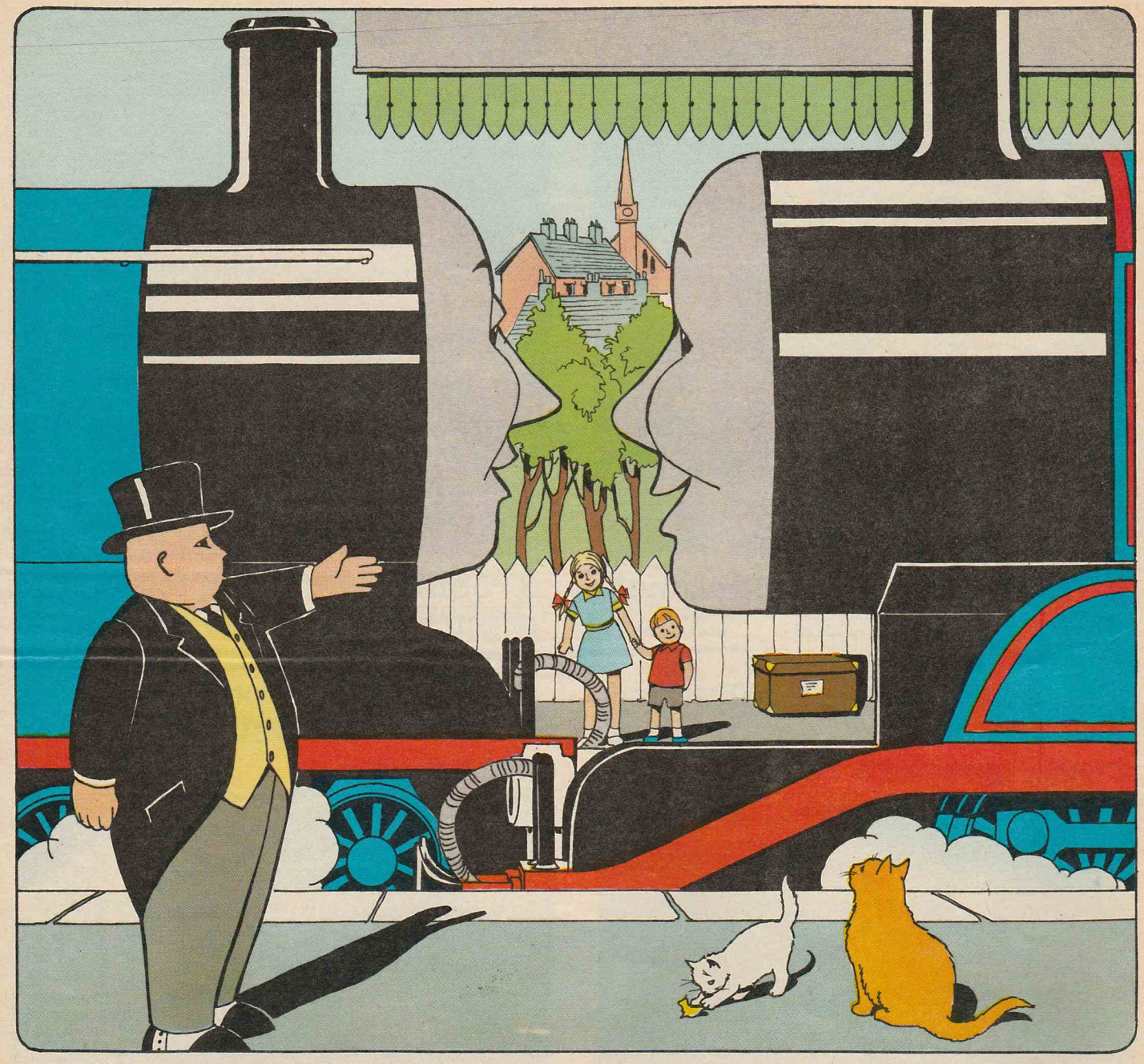
7. "You silly tank engine!" Henry grumbled crossly. "You're on my track!" "No – you're on **my** track!" spluttered Thomas. "The signal and points gave me right of way!"



8. Both drivers soon joined the argument. Each blamed the other for the mistake. "Back up and let me pass!" Thomas fumed. "No, **you** back up!" huffed Henry.

9. Just then, Edward chuffed slowly along the damaged down track. He was bringing more men to help repair it. Edward knew at once what had happened.

10. "The signal and points were in Henry's favour," Edward began, "but they're broken. My fireman is fixing them now." "See Thomas!" shouted Henry. "So **back up**!"



11. "I won't! I won't!" protested Thomas. "We won't! We won't!" added Annie and Clarabel. "I'm not in the wrong," Thomas went on. "My signal said **go**!" "But Thomas," said Edward reasonably, "we need to find a solution, not argue who is right or wrong. Besides, the Fat Controller likes sensible engines, not stubborn ones..."

12. So Thomas was backed up to the broken signal. Henry hurried past, whistling rudely. "Huh!" puffed Thomas. "That's the thanks you get for being sensible!" "Patience, Thomas," said Edward. And Edward was right. At the station, the Fat Controller was waiting to tell Thomas how pleased he was with his behaviour, and Thomas beamed with pride!

THE END

In our next issue: More fun on the line!

Subscribe to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends!

- **HAVE EVERY ISSUE SENT STRAIGHT TO YOUR HOME!**
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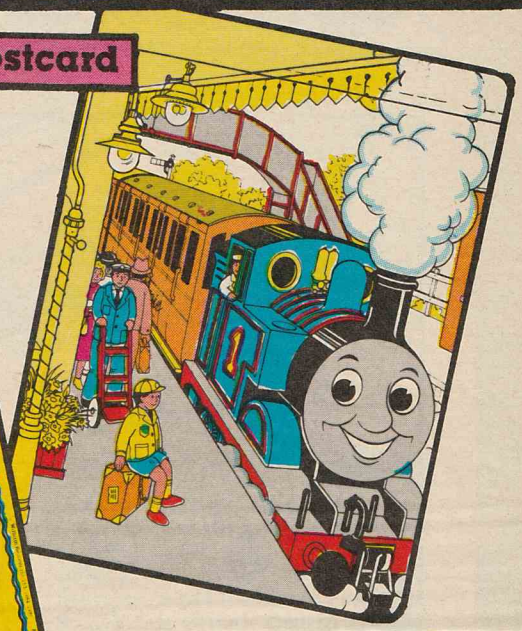
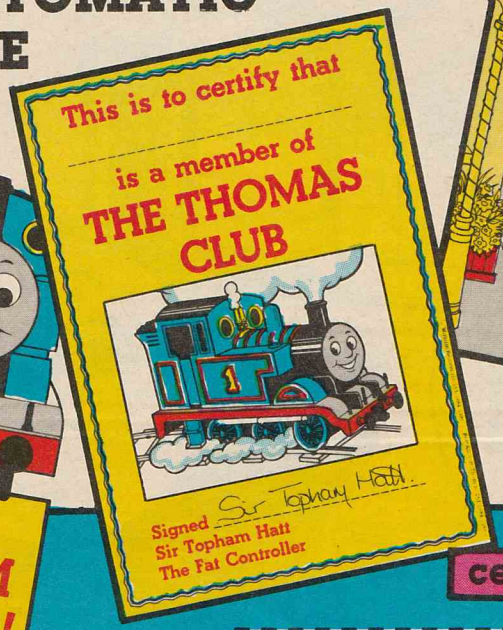
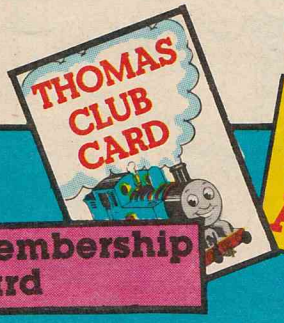


postcard



certificate



membership card

door hanger

It costs just **£9.75** to be sent a total of **26 issues** of **Thomas the Tank engine & Friends** – and this includes postage and packing. You will also receive our very special subscriber's **pack** (above). Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.75 to: *Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and understand I will receive 26 issues by post. I enclose a cheque/postal order for **£9.75** to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member or the **Thomas club** if I do not already belong!

Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

My favourite part of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends magazine is .....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian.....

.....

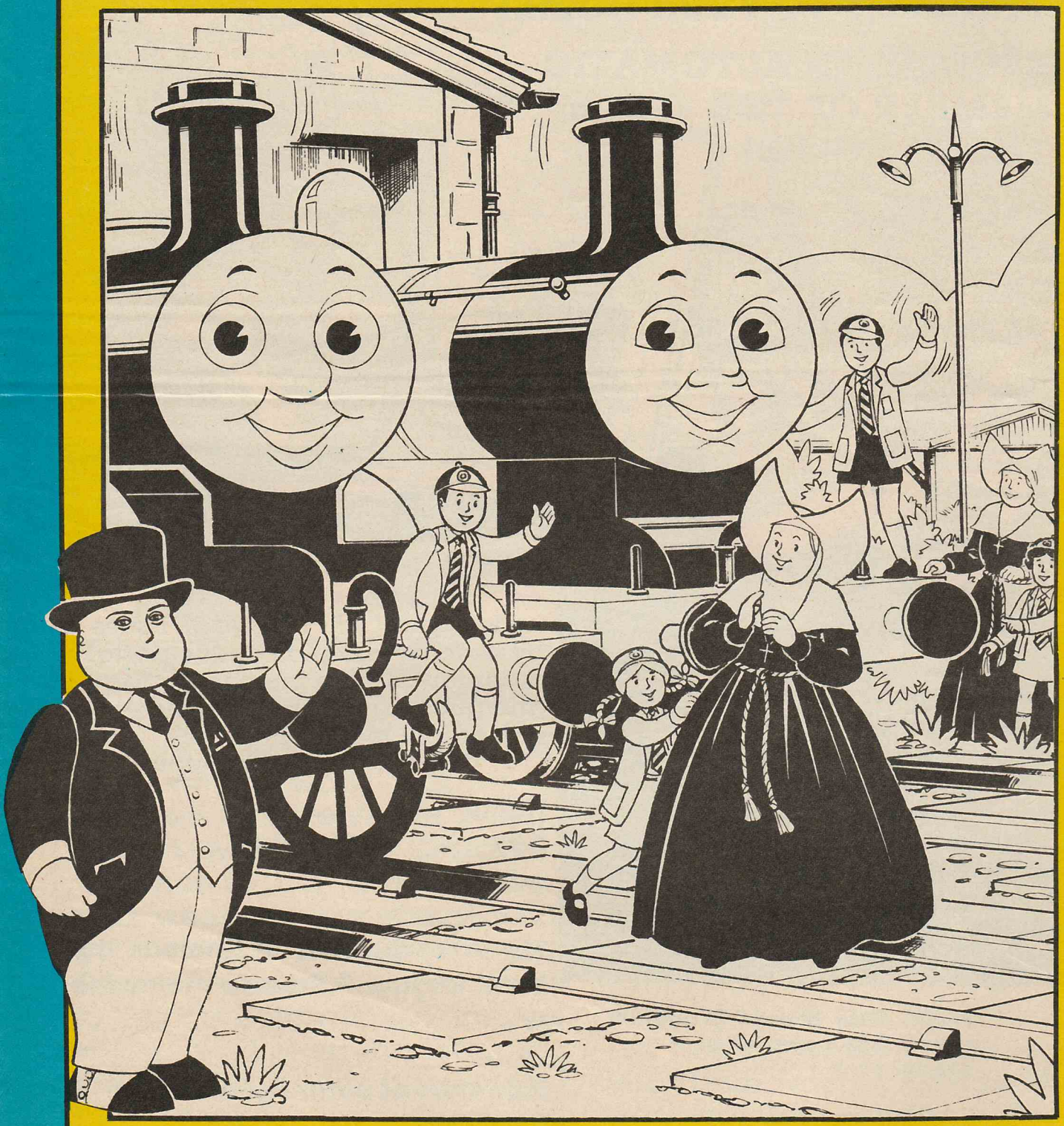
Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Please allow 28 days for delivery of your first magazine and special pack.

Please make your cheque or postal order payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

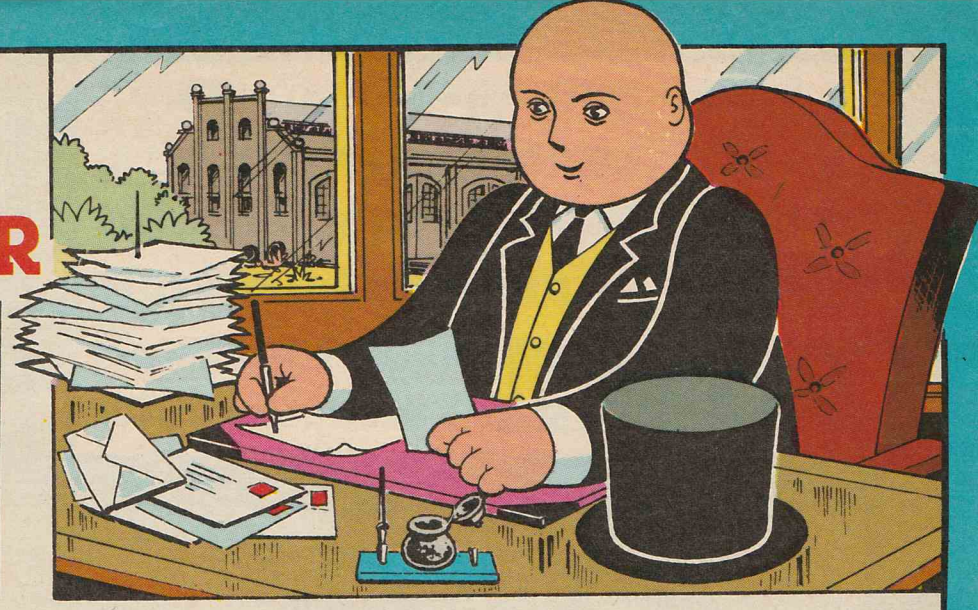
See Thomas, Percy and James's GERBER FRUIT DRINK PACKS for details of a £1 DISCOUNT OFFER! In the shops now!

COLOURING TIME!



Where have Thomas and his friends been?
Colour them – then turn to page seventeen!

Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,

When Daddy brings back boxes from the supermarket I make them into engines and trucks. I have got eleven trucks, seven big and four little. I put goods in them.

Love from **William**, aged 5.

I do hope they are not as bad-tempered as some of mine, I do indeed!

William wins a set of Thomas vinyl stickers, from Scorpio Products International Limited.

FISHY TASTE?

Dear Fat Controller,

Do you like sardines?

Love from **Emily**, aged 4.

Yes. I am very fond of tinned sardines on toast, garnished with a sprig of fresh parsley.

TIRED MUMMY!

Dear Fat Controller,

My mummy sometimes gets tired looking after me and my brothers and my new baby sister. She says she is like you looking after all your engines. Do you get tired?

Love from **Paul**, aged 5.

Indeed I do, especially in the Winter months. Your mummy and I do need a certain amount of rest each day, because we work hard.

CROSS GORDON!

Dear Fat Controller,

I think Thomas is my best tank engine in the whole world and why is Gordon never happy?

Love from **Ben**, aged 4.

Gordon is usually very happy, but because he is so big and powerful he sometimes gets annoyed and impatient with the other engines.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our best wishes go to:

Michael Corfield, Alan Petty, Mark Scott, Nicholas Free, Keith Garner, Robert Palmers, Leanne Lester (15922), Sarah Louise Williams (6911), Christopher Newton, Matthew Deacon (15895), Ross Morton (1721), Robert (10811), Benjamin Guest, Catrin Harris, Hannah Causer (2900), Mark Cullen (723), Gareth Thomas, Leslie Pitt (17197), Jason O'Leary, John Riches (7435), Gary Patmore, Joey Chapman (14926), Martin Hill, Andrew Fellous (11623), Alistair Barugh (1805), Liam Underwood, Anthony Aikinson, Matthew Leckonby-Scoins, David and Christine Tarry, Ian Baxter (12396), Hayley Stocker (19220), Kevin Williams, James Goodhead, Leek Mackey (15358), Michael Martin (9893), Christopher Ward (24052), Matthew Vickery (3890), Adam Cheeseworth (8135), Mark, Martin and David Troop, Jennifer Lappage, John Lindsay (14355), Christian Daniel (4365), Christopher Williams (0602), David Hayward, Gary Lock (22896), Jon-Man Cheung, and Jeremy Molesworth.

If you'd like a birthday mentioned here, just send details on a postcard please, at least **8 weeks in advance**. I cannot promise to print all the birthdays I receive, but will do my best.

Yours,

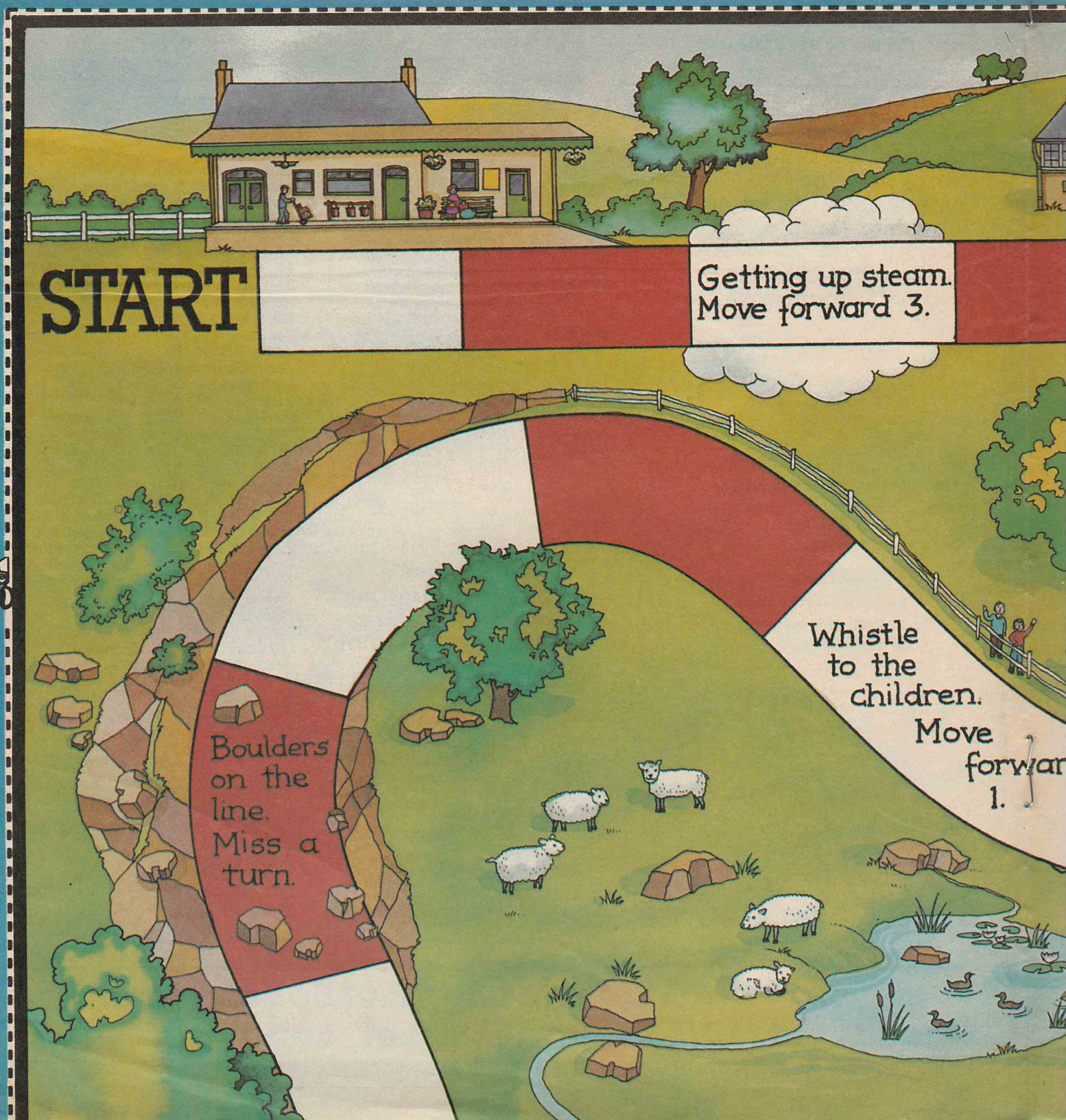
Sir Topham Hatt.

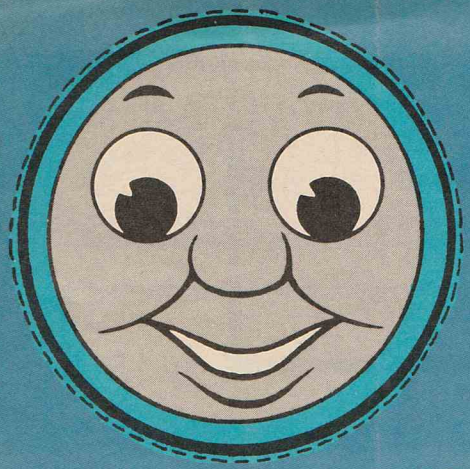
the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

THOMAS'S Game Part 1

This is the first part of Thomas's dice game. There are four parts altogether – so don't miss the next **three** issues of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends!** Stick this double page on to thin card, cut the blue border off along the dotted lines, cut out your first counter – and wait for our next issue!





How many sheep can you see?
Is the signal up or down?
What is happening at the church?
Wave to the children at the fence!
How many ducks are on the pond?
What colour is Terence the Tractor?

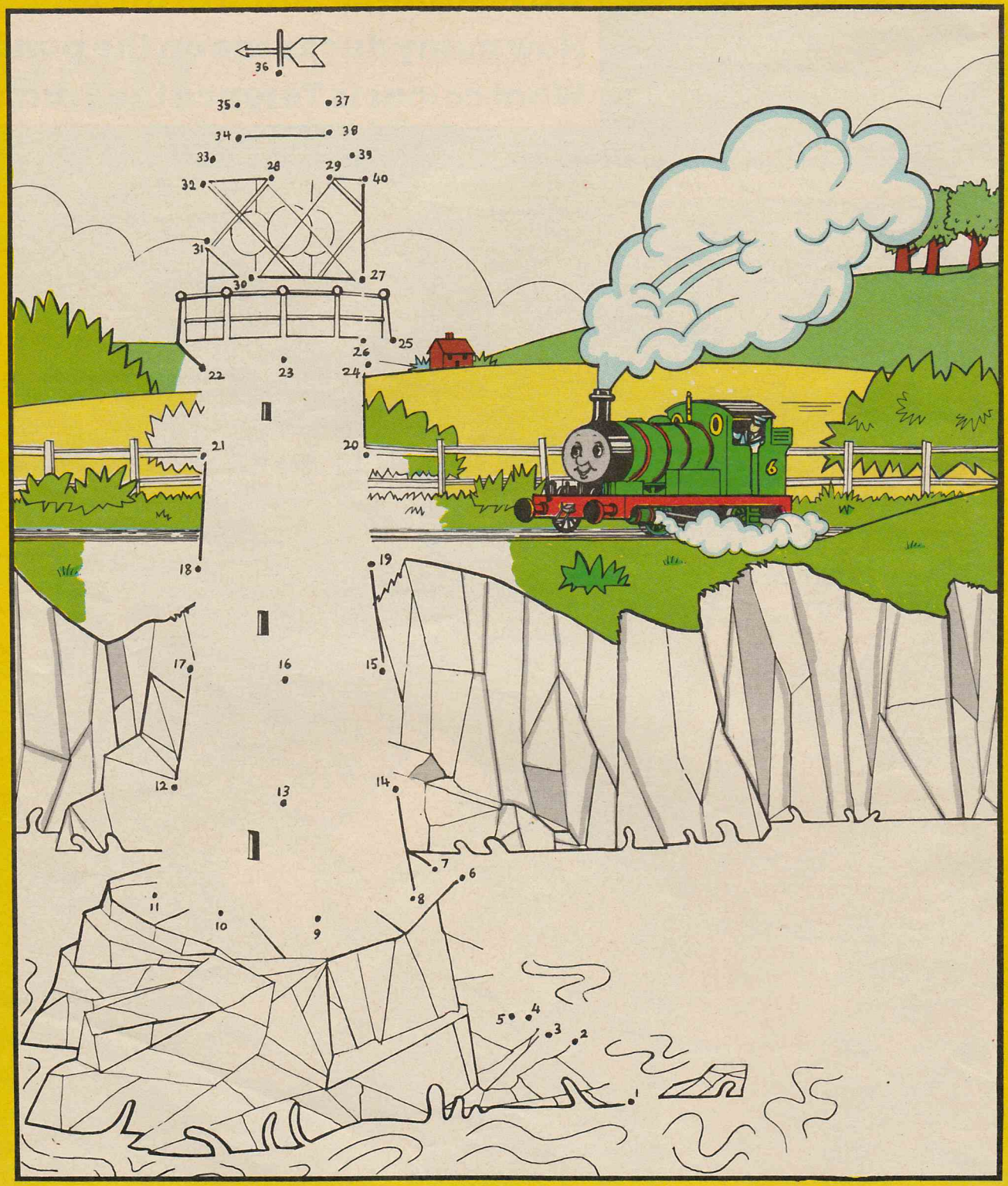
Signal says STOP! Miss a turn.

Down the hill and over the bridge. Move forward 3.

Steep hill. Go back 3.

orward
1.

JOIN THE DOTS!



What do you think Percy can see as he puffs along? Join the dots and then read his story on page 14! Peep! Peep!

JAMES'S JAPES!

Where do frogs hang their coats?
In a croak room!
Hannah, aged 7 and Adam, aged 4.

What's green and hairy and coughs?
A gooseberry with a bad chest!
Marc, aged 4.

What dog can you eat?
A hot dog!
Guy, aged 5.

What had a green body, eight hairy legs, beady red eyes and a pink tail?
I don't know, but one's crawling right up your leg!
Victoria, aged 4.

What is a snowball?
A dance in the snow!
Christopher, aged 8.

Man: What's this fly doing in my soup?
Waiter: Looks like the backstroke, sir!
Ian, aged 6.

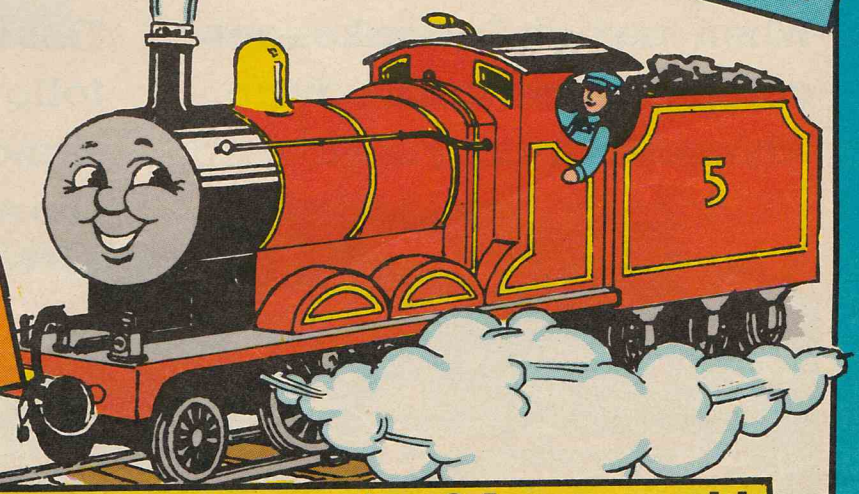
What's green and slimy and lives in a lighthouse?
A frog-horn!
Mandy, aged 7.

What happened to the potato that refused to work?
It was sacked!
Neil, aged 7.

What do you get if you cross an elephant with a fish?
A pair of swimming trunks!
Jeremy, aged 5.

What nut has no shell?
A doughnut!
Jonathan, aged 3.

What do you call an alligator with a tummy ache?
An illigator!
Emma, aged 4.



Have you got a favourite joke or a funny story? James would love to hear it! Write to him at the address on the letters page.

A read aloud story!

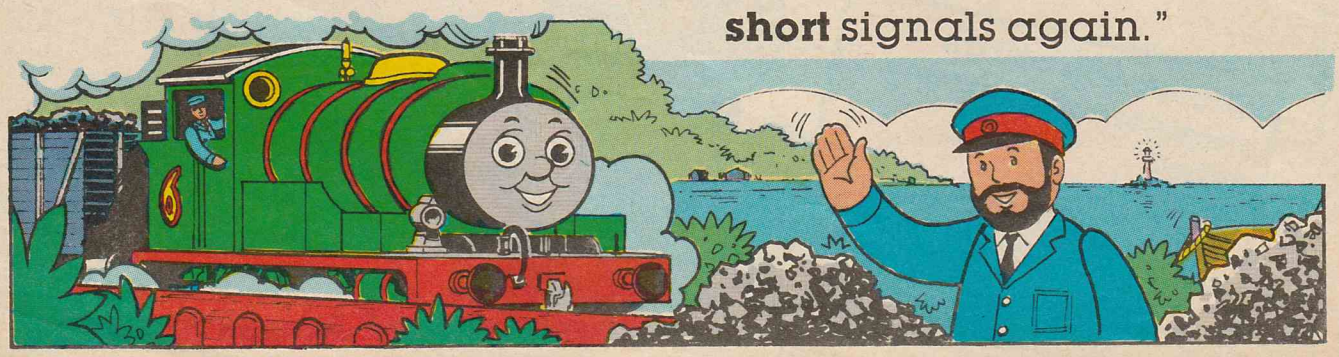
Percy and the Lighthouse

If you go to the farthest end of the Island of Sodor, and look out to sea, you will see a lighthouse standing on a small island of rock. The lighthouse is there to warn ships not to get too close to the rocks.

Percy knows the lighthouse keeper well. He delivers coal to the harbour. The coal is then put on a ship and taken to the lighthouse for fuel. When the lighthouse keeper comes ashore, he always says hello to Percy.

One day, the lighthouse keeper was sitting on the station platform, reading a book on Morse Code. "What's Morse Code?" asked Percy.

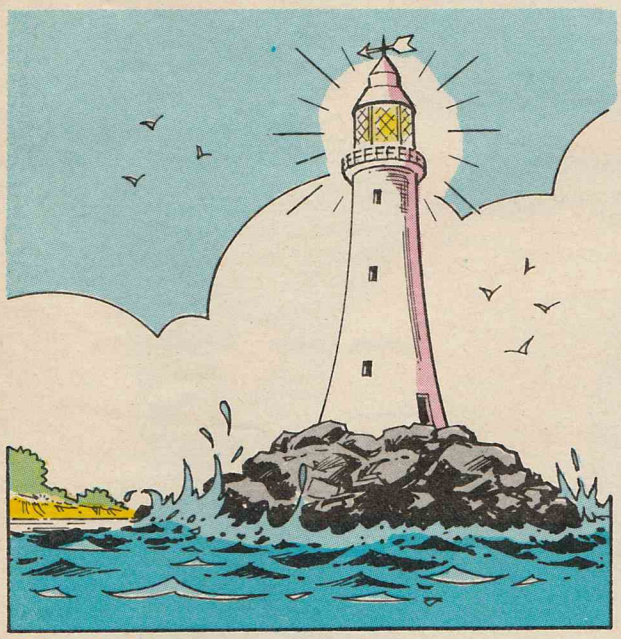
"Morse Code is a way of sending messages by radio or light," explained the lighthouse keeper. "For example, **SOS** is a warning signal which means that someone needs urgent help. This is three **short** signals, followed by three **long** signals, followed by three **short** signals again."



Percy was most impressed. He talked about Morse Code all that night.

"I do wish you would shut up, Percy," grumbled Gordon. "I want to get to sleep. Anyhow, when are you going to need to know Morse Code, you silly little engine?"

Percy ignored Gordon. He didn't say any more about Morse Code, but he was sad when the lighthouse keeper went back to the lighthouse



lighthouse

A week later, Percy was collecting shingle from the far side of the island, to take to the quarry. As evening fell, he passed the point on the line where he could see the lighthouse. To his surprise, the lighthouse beacon was flashing on and off.

"Three **short** flashes, followed by three **long** flashes, followed by three **short** flashes," said Percy. Then he remembered what the lighthouse keeper had told him.

"Oh my goodness!" he exclaimed. "That's the **SOS** signal in Morse Code. The lighthouse keeper must be in trouble."

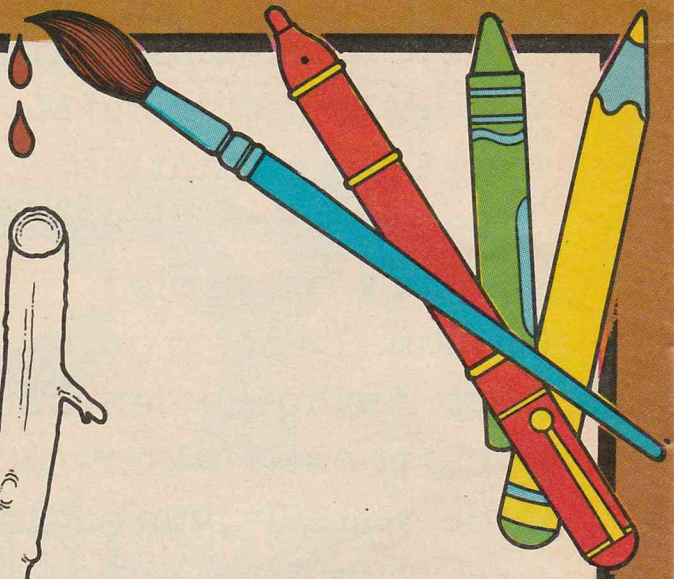
Percy's driver drove him to the nearest station and called the rescue service. Harold the Helicopter flew to the lighthouse and brought back the lighthouse keeper.

"He had fallen down the stairs and hurt his leg," Harold told Percy, later. "It was lucky that you saw his signal, otherwise he might have been there for days."

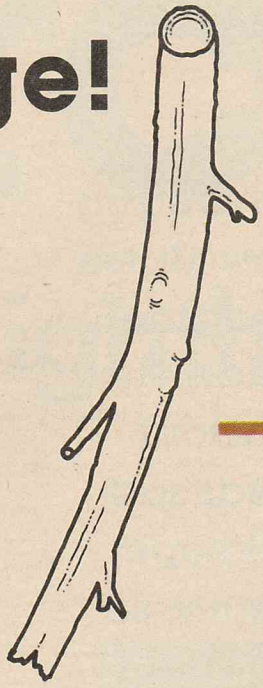
"Wait until I tell Gordon how useful Morse Code is," said Percy, proudly. He whistled loudly, "Peep! Peep! Peep! **Peep! Peep! Peep!** Peep! Peep! Peep!"

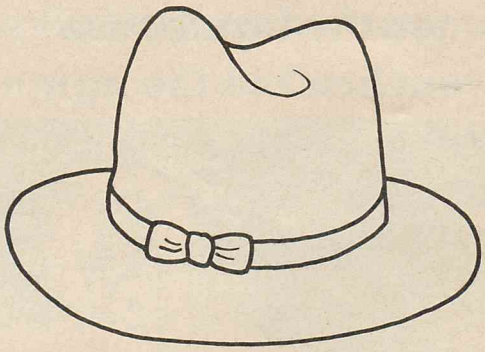
THE END

Annie and Clarabel's BROWN page!

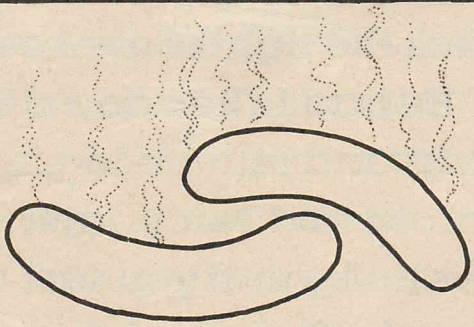


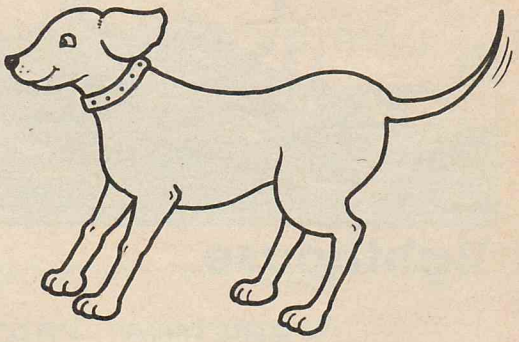
Look at these pictures. Can you pick out their names from the box below? Label each picture and then colour each one – brown!

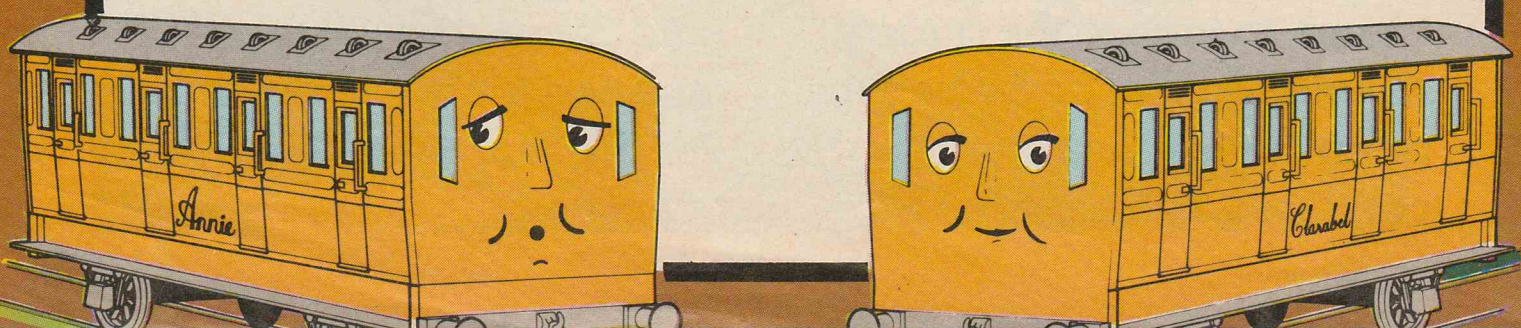




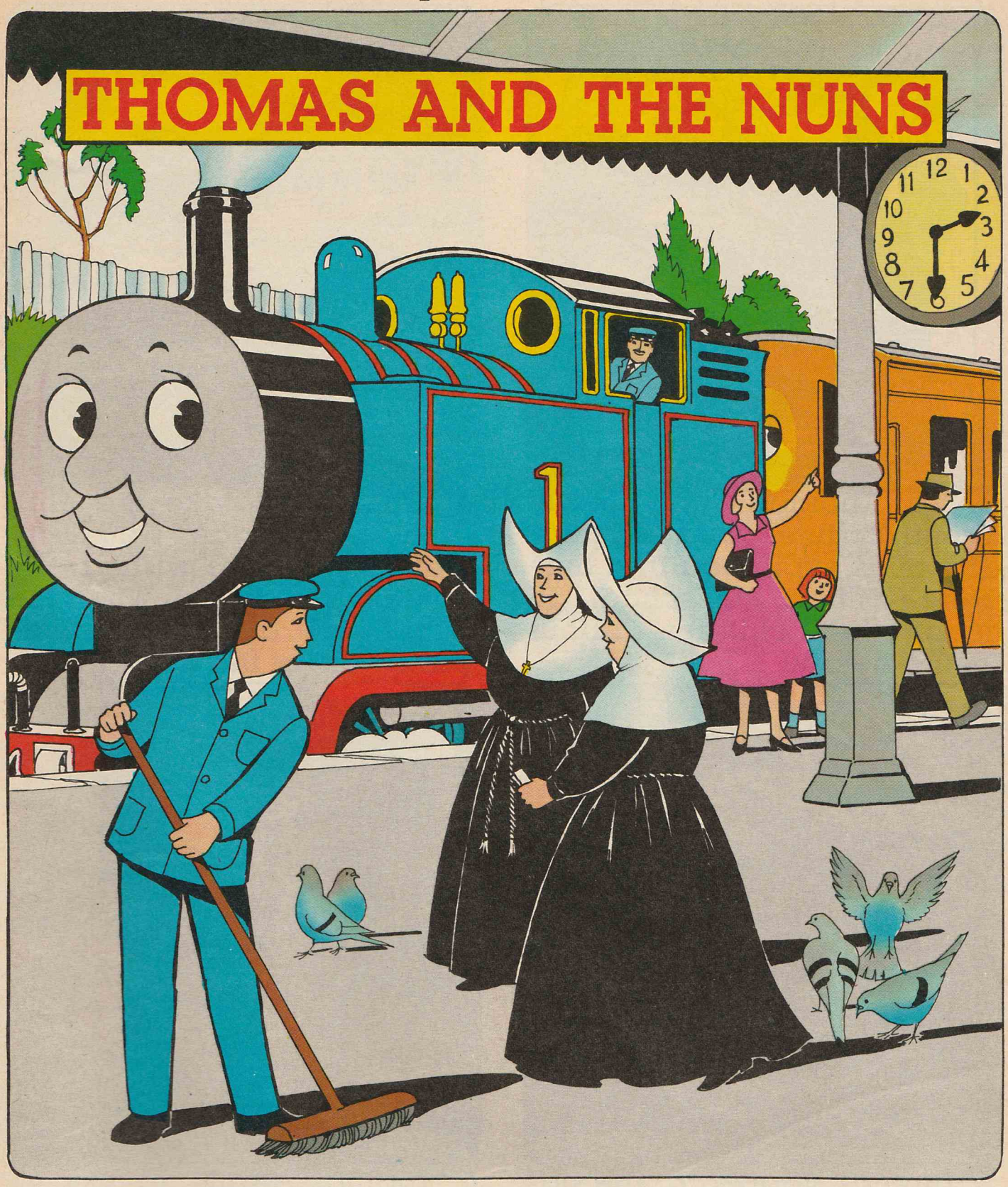
stick dog
hat sausages







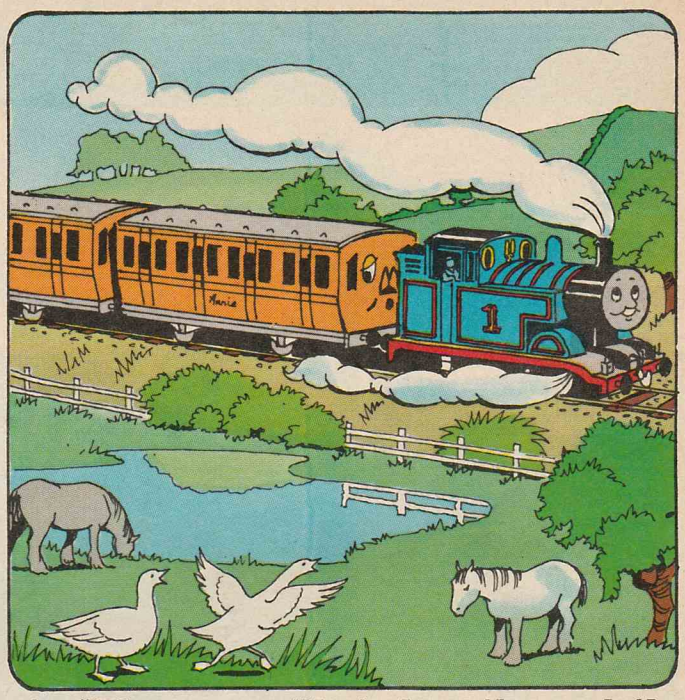
A listen and look story!



1. One morning, Thomas's driver told Thomas that he would be carrying two very special guests. "Two nuns from the convent are visiting the village school," he said.

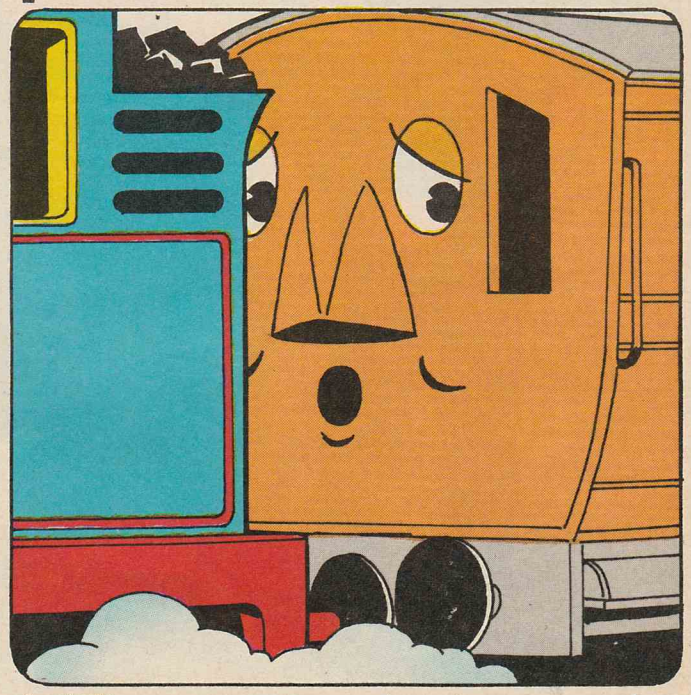
2. Thomas was pleased. "I have never met a nun before," he thought. The nuns arrived at half past two. "I'm Sister Jane," said one. "And this is Sister Mary."

3. "I'm Thomas. I'm a Really Useful Engine," said Thomas. The nuns explained that they were visiting the school, to teach the children about being helpful.

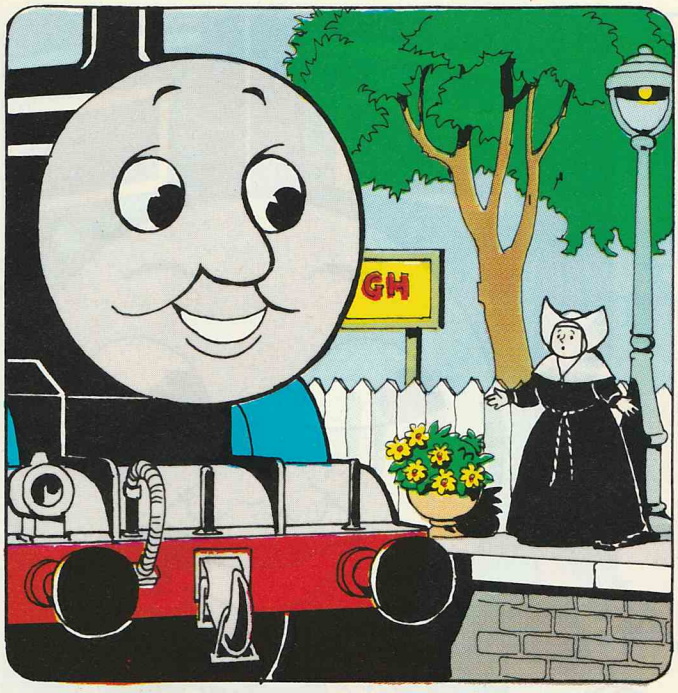


4. "Then we'll take the children on a bus ride," said Sister Mary. Thomas wished he could go to school. When the nuns were aboard, Thomas puffed out of the station.

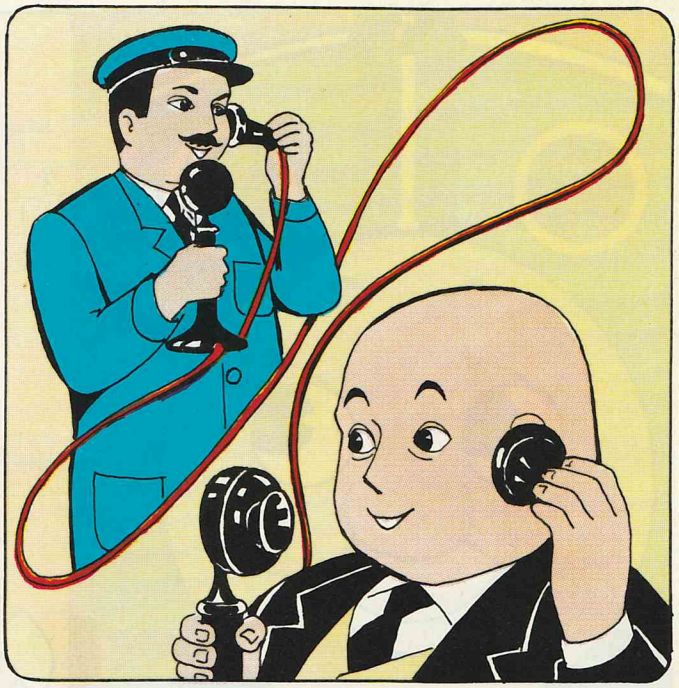
5. Thomas stopped at the station beside the school. "Thank you for a smooth ride, Thomas," said Sister Jane. Then Thomas chuffed away, to pick up passengers from the harbour.



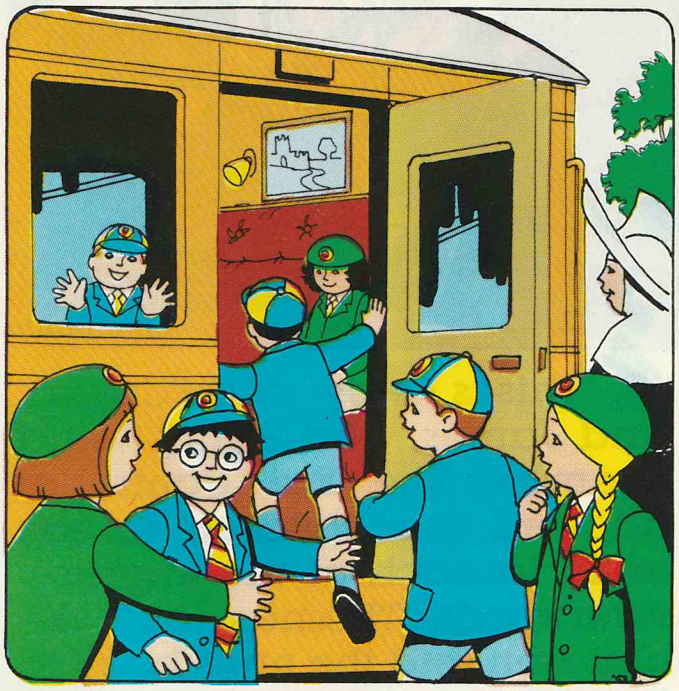
6. "Thomas wants to go to school, go to school, go to school," sang Annie and Clarabel, rather mischievously. "Don't be silly," said Thomas. But he did really.



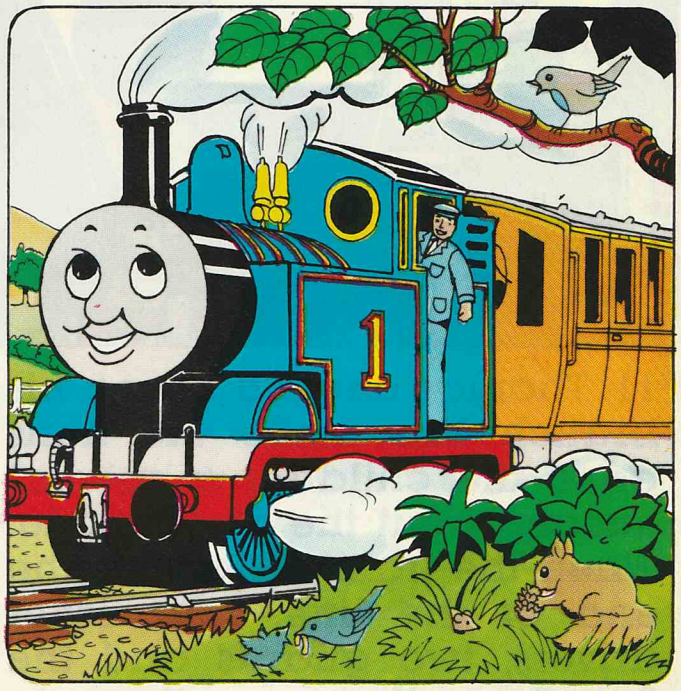
7. On the way home, Thomas saw Sister Mary waiting on the school station platform. "The bus has broken down," she said sadly. "We cannot take the children for their ride."



8. "Why don't they come for a **train** ride?" suggested Thomas. His driver thought that this was a splendid idea. He telephoned the Fat Controller, who gave his permission.



9. The children were very excited. Most of them had never been on a train before. "Peep, peep! All aboard!" whistled Thomas. The children sat in Thomas's coaches.



10. The nuns told the children to behave themselves. Thomas's driver smiled. "You may not be able to go to school, Thomas," he said, "but the school has come to you."

11. Thomas chuffed along his branch line while the nuns gave the children a special lesson about the countryside. When the train arrived at the end of the line, four other drivers, two guards and the Fat Controller were there to welcome them all. "Do come and meet my friends," Thomas said, as he puffed slowly towards the engine shed.

12. "This is Percy, and Edward, and James, and Henry," said Thomas. The Fat Controller allowed the children to say hello to each of the engines. Afterwards, Thomas took the children and the nuns back to the school. "Thank you, Thomas," said Sister Mary, and Sister Jane, smiling serenely. "You are a Really Helpful Engine!"

THE END

More fun with Thomas in our next issue!